

## **If I Were Selfish Enough**

Sarah Gragg

One day the having wouldn't be enough.

I'd move in and out of—

people like lamplight,

the circle small and unbroken;

I'd teeter out farther than I like

every time When I catch it,

it fades.

It drifts like snow in the winter;

it leaves no maps just the soft

clumps of ice under the fur of the snow.

If I were treacherous;

tumors on the first dog you ever had.

If the days were not eventual, Not the ones worth having.

Other days were brooding under the microscope,

which I'd leave unfocused, like leaves

and mostly I'd try not to pity myself

It's ridiculous.

But we're all ashamed of each other's emotions. Someone

growing up wet the bed, or had a crush,

on a cousin say

and nobody gets over these things.

So we smile and look carefully past each others shoulders

but if I were selfish enough

what a smile           :they'd say